

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 INRE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 EB-07 L-02 H-02

SEC-01 FTC-01 COME-00 JUSE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 USIE-00

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:PMAYHEW:CHG

APPROVED BY EA/K - MR O'DONOHUE

ARA/BC - MR COTTER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, KS

SUBJECT:PRESS GUIDANCE - GULF POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS;  
SFRC SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE ON GULF POLITICAL CONTRI-  
BUTIONS:

QUOTE:

QUESTION: DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE POLITICAL  
CONTRIBUTIONS GULF REPORTEDLY MADE TO THE GOVERNMENT PARTY  
IN KOREA?

ANSWER: THE DEPARTMENT CANNOT COMMENT ON THE LEGALITY OF  
THESE PARTICULAR PAYMENTS. HOWEVER, ACTIVITIES SUCH AS  
THESE OBVIOUSLY CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR US IN OUR RELATIONS  
WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS.

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QUESTION: WAS THE USG AWARE OF THESE CONTRIBUTIONS?

ANSWER: WE WERE INFORMED BY THE COMPANY BEFORE ITS  
TESTIMONY TO THE CHURCH SUBCOMMITTEE.

QUESTION: IS ANY ACTION CONTEMPLATED AGAINST THE COMPANY?

ANSWER: ANY QUESTION ON THIS WOULD HAVE TO BE DIRECTED TO THE APPROPRIATE U.S. REGULATORY AGENCY -- THE S.E.C.

BACKGROUND: THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF GULF OIL HAS TOLD US THAT UNDER PRESSURE FROM UNNAMED KOREANS IT MADE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE REELECTION CAMPAIGNS OF ROK PRESIDENT PARK IN 1967 AND 1970. THESE TOTALED \$4 MILLION. WE EXPECT THE CHAIRMAN TO TESTIFY SIMILARLY AT A PUBLIC HEARING OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS (CHURCH) SUBCOMMITTEE ON MULTI-NATIONAL CORPORATIONS ON MAY 16. UNQUOTE.

2. AT NOON BRIEFING SECRETARY WAS ASKED ABOUT CONTRIBUTIONS. TEXT OF QUESTIONS AND SECRETARY'S RESPONSE WILL BE TRANSMITTED IN WIRELESS FILE.

3. DEPARTMENT OFFICER REPORTS THAT IN CHURCH SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING DORSEY CLOSELY QUESTIONED BY COMMITTEE ON WHETHER DEPARTMENT OR EMBASSY AWARE GULF HAD BEEN SOLICITED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS. DORSEY SAID GULF HAD NOT DISCUSSED MATTER WITH EITHER AT THE TIME. IN REPLY TO QUESTION ON WHY HE HAD NOT SOLICITED OUR ASSISTANCE, DORSEY SAID HE HAD NOT FOUND DEPARTMENT HELPFUL IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES. THIS WAS CHALLENGED BY SENATOR PERCY WHO SAID HE HAD FOUND DEPARTMENT TO BE VERY HELPFUL TO U.S. BUSINESS ABROAD. DORSEY WAS ASKED IF OTHER U.S. COMPANIES DOING BUSINESS IN KOREA WERE SIMILARLY SOLICITED, AND SAID HE DID NOT KNOW, BUT HAD BEEN LED TO BELIEVE THEY WERE.

4. IN REPLY TO QUESTION ON WHO HAD SOLICITED GULF ON BEHALF DRP DORSEY NAMED KIM SONG KON AND SAID THAT KIM HAD PUT PARTICULARLY STRONG PRESSURE ON DORSEY HIMSELF IN 1970. DORSEY SAID HE BELIEVED SENIOR ROKG OFFICIALS AWARE OF CONTRIBUTIONS, BUT WHEN ASKED HOW THEY KNEW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
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HE SAID HE COULD NOT RECALL. ALSO SAID THAT GULF GOT NOTHING OUT OF CONTRIBUTIONS EXCEPT RIGHT TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE "UNFETTERED". PRESS ACCOUNT OF TESTIMONY REPORTS DORSEY SAID HE HAD ONLY RECENTLY LEARNED THAT CONTRIBUTIONS AGAINST KOREAN LAW.

5. DEPARTMENT'S GENERAL STATEMENT ON ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES OF U.S. COMPANIES ABROAD BEING TRANSMITTED SEPTTEL.

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## Message Attributes

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